Docket No.: 53924USA1B.010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

In re Application of: DESMOND T. CURRAN ET AL.

Serial No.:

Filed:

For:

MANNER OF ATTACHING COMPONENT ELEMENTS TO FILTRATION MATERIAL

SUCH AS MAY BE UTILIZED IN RESPIRATORY MASKS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The accompanying continuation application uses a Substitute Specification. The originally-filed specification in parent application Serial No. 09/420,671 (Attorney Docket No. 53924USA3A.002) did not include line numbers, paragraph numbers or boldface identifiers for the figures and features of the Drawing. The Substitute Specification contains paragraph numbers as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.125(c), boldface identifiers for the figures and features of the Drawing, and editorial corrections as shown on the enclosed "Marked Copy" of the Substitute Specification.

Please amend this continuation application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims 44 - 72:

44. A filtration device comprising:

- a. a web of material comprising a layer of filtration material and having first and second major surfaces and an aperture, and
- b. at least one component comprising a component base portion and an extension member that extends from the component base portion through the aperture, the extension member being deformed to have a surface in

B/